

# Wichita

## PLANNING PROCESS

AND parks  
recreation  
open space



# WICHITA PARKS AND RECREATION

## CREATE.....



WICHITA PLANNING PROCESS  
PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE



# ...a Safer Community

The Wichita Police Department observed a **32 percent decrease in juvenile crime** in the Planeview area following the creation of the Planeview Activity Camp for Kids (PACK).

## FUN WITH A PURPOSE



Jorge Rodriguez, 8, leaps to high-five Wichita police Officer Jamie Crouch during a soccer clinic at the Planeview Activity Camp for Kids. Wichita police officers lead the soccer clinics at the camp.

## SUMMER KIDS' PROGRAM HELPS PLANEVIEW FIGHT CRIME

Police, city and school officials have joined with the neighborhood to start the free program, which is credited with reducing vandalism.

BY JOE RODRIGUEZ  
The Wichita Eagle

The most eager kids, about a dozen or so, sprint out of Jardine-Edison Junior Academy to the soccer fields. Minutes later, the rest of the elementary and middle school students trickle out of the building to join the game.

Kids laugh as they run into each other while chasing the soccer ball. One boy high-fives a friend. Another boy, maybe 5 or 6, slides over a cone used to mark the goal, in an attempt to give his teammates a wider target.

The youths having the fun are part of a six-week summer program called the Planeview Activity Camp for Kids, or PACK.

Each weekday from 12:30 to 6 p.m., about 75 children from the Planeview neighborhood come to Jardine-Edison for lunch and a variety of activities. The kids, in kindergarten through eighth grade, play chess and take cooking classes. They take math lessons and go on field trips. They go to dance classes and play sports such as soccer.

And thanks to a federal grant and some planning by city and school officials, it's all free.



Francisco Torres, 10, left, and Robert Deloers, 9, chase down a ball during a soccer clinic at Jardine-Edison Junior Academy. The clinic is part of a youth program called the Planeview Activity Camp for Kids. About 75 youths attend the camp on weekdays.

Please see FUN Page 3E

Bundy Tucker/The Wichita Eagle

# ...Cost Savings

**It costs approximately \$60,000 incarcerate a youth in Sedgwick County correctional facilities for one year.**

- 10 dances lessons
- 12 month of open gym
- 6 tennis lessons
- 10 martial arts lessons
- 10 cooking classes
- 8 basketball lessons
- 8 wrestling lessons
- 12 months of weight lifting
- 10 games of flag football
- 6 ice skating lessons
- 5 hockey lessons
- 10 wildlife lessons
- 1 fishing seminar

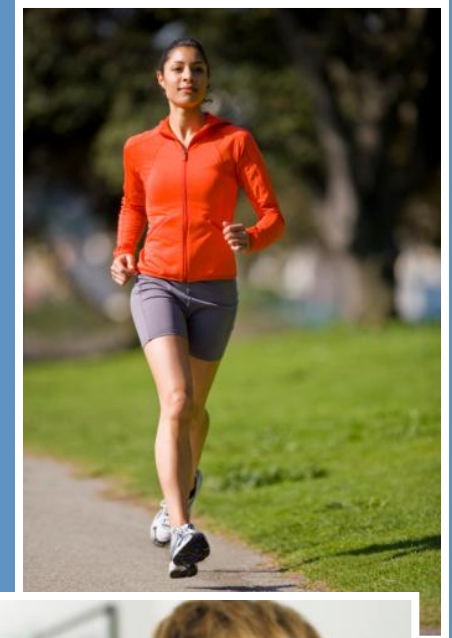


**After which we could return  
you one happier kid, and  
\$57, 605.**

# ...a Healthier Community and Economy

**Active individuals pay  
approximately \$330 less  
annually in direct healthcare  
costs than inactive people.**

**That's a savings of almost  
\$1,000,000 annually for every  
3,000 residents.**



# ...a Stronger Economy

During the summer of 2008, 375 young professionals in the Wichita area were surveyed as part of a community perception study.

52% plan to leave the Wichita MSA. Of those who plan to leave, 35% **plan to leave for a community with different amenities**, which is a higher percentage than those leaving for another job opportunity.

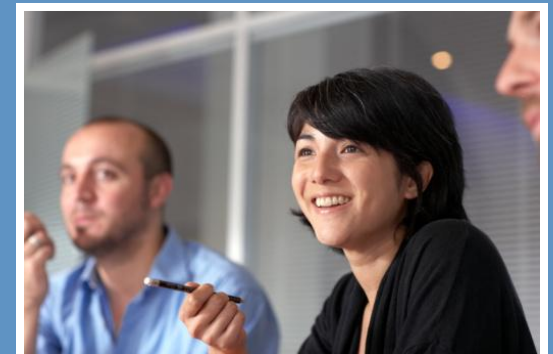
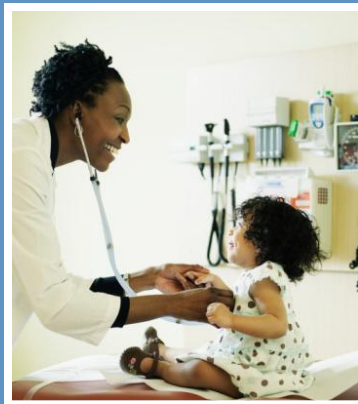


# Manpower Inc. Survey



The hardest to fill positions are those requiring  
advanced training and skills

(i.e. nursing, sales, engineers, IT, etc.)





# Manpower Inc. Survey



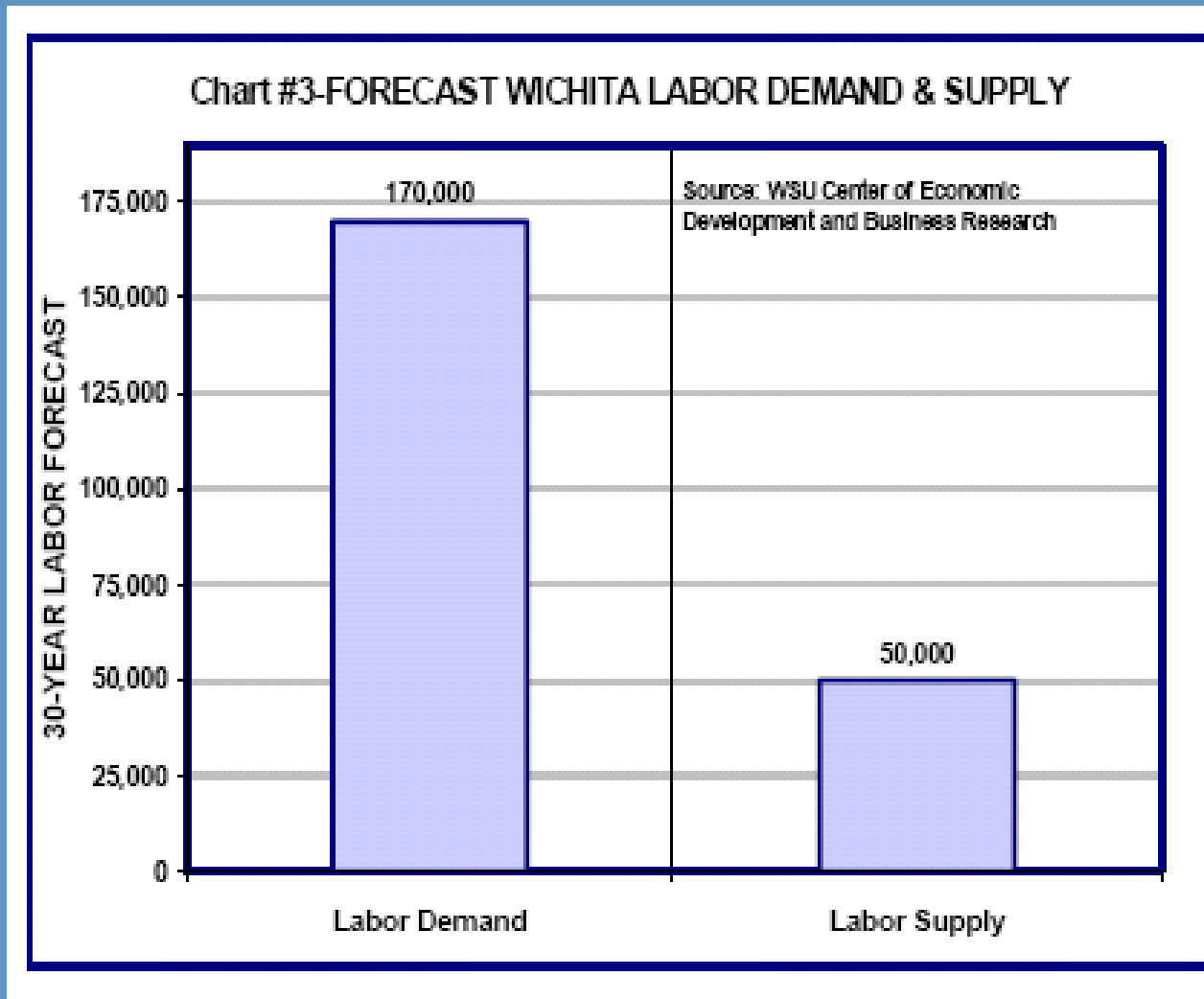
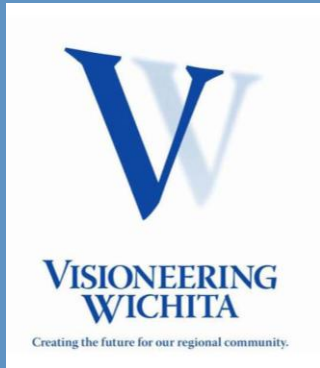
## Survey Results Cont.

**“The shortages are only going to get worse as more people reach retirement age.”**





# Wichita Scenario



# What Attracts and Retains YPs

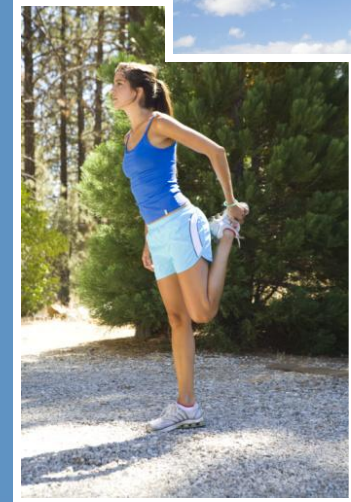
- Acceptance and openness = diversity
- **Quality of life (life style interests)**
- Affordable housing
- High wages
- Many employment opportunities
- Low poverty



**Wichita specific survey results coming soon...**

# Quality of Life - *(lifestyle Interests)*

- **Participation sports** not spectator sports (**emphasis on outdoor recreation**)
- Street level culture (presence of bars, restaurants, and other consumer businesses)
- Unique sense of place (historic, iconic)
- Convenient, quick and easy to get around
- Vibrant urban center



Create your future...

# PLAN FOR THE FUTURE



# Nearly 3,000 citizens participated in the plan...

- Focus groups
- 9 outreach meetings
- 6 days of intercept events
- Scientific survey
- Web & paper questionnaires
- Visioning workshop
- P&R recreation staff workshops
- Technical , recreation and citizen advisory committee meetings
- Greenway Alliance events



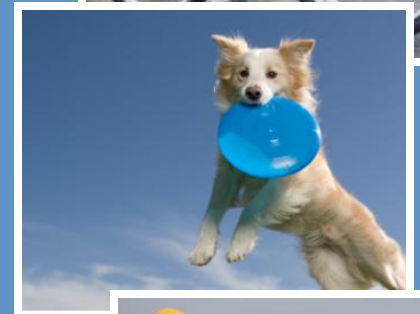
# Improving Wichita Parks

- Reinvestment in existing parks
- A public park within 1 miles of every resident
- Develop parks to meet specific standards
- Coordinate park locations with other public facilities
- Acquire sites in 2030 Growth Area



# Recreation Resources Improvements

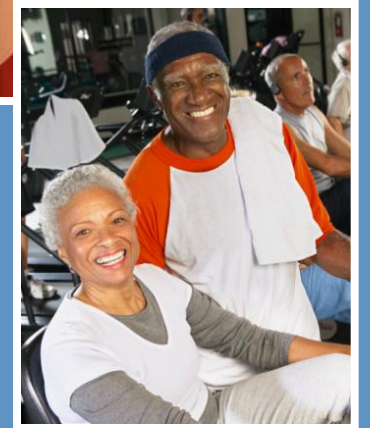
- Expanded and connect trails
- Provide a city pool within 2 miles of every resident
- Provide dog parks at sites throughout the City
- Utilize the Arkansas River for recreation - ARCAP



# High Demand Recreation Programs

## High demand programs at Neighborhood Centers

- **Neighborhood Councils**
  - Fitness and wellness
  - Out of school programs
  - Youth development
  - Environmental education
  - Lifelong learning opportunities





# Neighborhood Centers of the Future

- Focus on program improvements
- Make minor upgrades first
- In long term: major renovations of existing Centers and building of new Centers
  - Combine locations and facilities with public and other partner agencies



# Recreation Services Built on Partnerships

**Multi-tiered, multi-sector service delivery that builds on existing resources:**

- **Mega-Centers**
  - Provided by the YMCA
- **Neighborhood Centers**
  - Provided by City
- **Specialized Centers**
  - Provided by City and others
- **Community Buildings**
  - Avoid building more







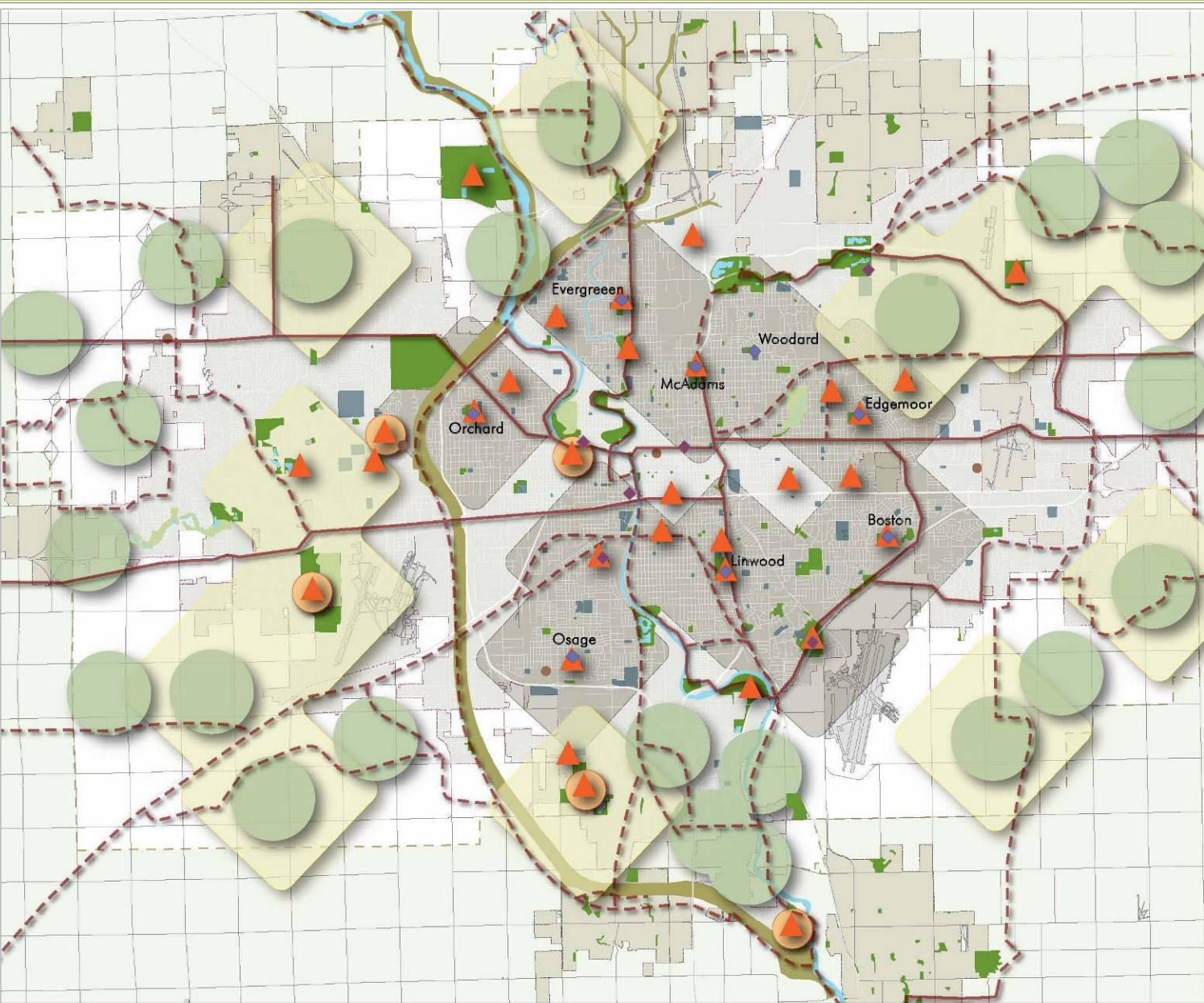
## Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan

City of Wichita, Kansas

- Major Renovation or Development of Existing Site
- Change of Use
- Proposed Park Target Area
- Proposed Neighborhood Center Service Area
- YMCA Mega-Center
- Wichita Specialized Center
- Wichita Neighborhood Center
- Wichita Neighborhood Center Service Area (2 mile)
- Proposed Pathway
- Existing Pathway
- Existing Park
- Golf Course
- School
- City Limits
- 2030 Growth Area
- Other City
- Floodway
- Water

**Map 2:**  
**Park System of the Future**

September 2008 | Data Source:  
City of Wichita & Sedgwick County



# Improvements for Existing Parks

- Major renovations at 18 sites
- Minor renovations at 35 sites
- Site furnishing and signage upgrades at 26 sites
- Ongoing reinvestment at 49 sites





# Plans for New Park Development

## Future Park Development

- **18 sites in city limits**
  - 8 new sites
  - 10 existing sites
- **15 new sites in 2030 growth area**



# Improving Park Maintenance

- Rethink park maintenance priorities
  - Two tiers
- Allocate more resources to building and park maintenance
  - History of underfunding, adding responsibilities
- Invest in sites, fleet, staff



# Cost Estimates for All Improvements

- \$268 million existing parks projects
- \$243 million new parks projects
- \$43 million for pathways
- \$2.5 million annual increase needed for maintenance
- Public assets require investment to sustain community value



# Funding - Not Included

**The PROS Plan does not include  
any funding**

**Funding to make the improvements  
identified in the PROS Plan  
needs to be undertaken through  
a separate initiative**





# \$ Options Maintenance & Operations

## Expanded cost recovery

- Increasing fees for existing services
- Expanding participation in rec programs

## Cost sharing

- Leveraging tax spending with investments by other community entities

## Increased General Fund support

- Property taxes (general or dedicated)
- Sales taxes (general or dedicated)



# \$ Options for Capital Development

- **Maintain current sources**
- **Possible new sources:**
  - **Increase park portion of City debt financing (CIP)**
  - **General or targeted special assessments**
  - **Dedicated general tax**
    - Sales tax
    - Property tax



# Next Steps

- Seek City Council adoption of plan
- Park Board will recommend funding options to Council
- Implement plan based on funding availability and continuing community feedback



# More Information...

# [www.wichitaprospan.org](http://www.wichitaprospan.org)

